

**MINUTES
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
March 9, 2021**

Meeting conducted via Zoom video conferencing. Handouts were emailed March 5, 2021 to include: (1) Agenda; (2) Minutes of the October 21, 2020 meeting; (3) 2021 WRATS Meeting Schedule; (4) PM1 Admin Mod; (5) TAM Plan Admin Mod and (6) WRATS Project Status Report.

Chairman Randy Toms called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m. and welcomed everyone.

ATTENDEES

Jessica Bird
John Harley
Kaniz Sathi

Randy Toms
Tom Caiafa

Radney Simpson
Greg Boike

Roy Lewis
Bryan Wood

Harland Smith
Spring Rosati

A motion was made by Mr. John Harley and seconded by Mr. Bryan Wood to approve the October 21, 2020 minutes as circulated. The motion was passed unanimously.

2021 WRATS Meeting Schedule

Ms. Jessica Bird announced that all WRATS meetings will be held virtually this year. Ms. Bird said she will email meeting notices to committee members two weeks before each meeting and they should expect a Zoom email invite a couple of days before each meeting.

Adoption of FY 2022 UPWP

According to Ms. Jessica Bird, the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is a planning document that the MPO produces each year. The document covers work to be performed by the MPO from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and includes information such as the various tasks to be conducted and the anticipated costs and funding sources for each task. Ms. Bird explained that the MPO will be focusing on bicycle and pedestrian safety like promoting GDOT's safety plan action items and comparing the WRATS Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan with bicycle and pedestrian crash, fatalities, and injuries data for the MPO. She stated that the total budget for the FY 2022 UPWP is \$96,625.00 with a twenty percent local match of \$19,325. Ms. Bird announced that the document has already been submitted to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). She said the MPO has adequately addressed their comments.

Mr. John Harley made a motion to adopt the FY 2022 UPWP. Mr. Bryan Wood seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Adoption of FY 2021-2024 TIP

Ms. Jessica Bird discussed the specifics of the document and explained that it indicates the urbanized area's transportation priorities for the next four years and contains projects that have been authorized and allocated for

the State's construction work program. Starting with page 1-1, Ms. Bird briefly reviewed each project through page 1-21 and pointed out that the system performance report was added as Appendix F. She announced that the thirty-day public comment period ended February 25, 2021. GDOT and FHWA reviewed the document and made comments which already have been addressed, said Ms. Bird.

Mr. Bryan Wood made a motion to adopt the FY 2021-2024 TIP and Mr. John Harley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Amendment of Participation Plan

Ms. Jessica Bird reminded the committee of her presentation on the MPO's public involvement process and the WRATS Participation Plan (PP) back in August 2020. Ms. Bird explained how at that meeting she described the different sections of the PP and techniques used to engage citizens in the planning and programming of transportation improvements. She then explained that she added language about virtual participation and updated the document to reflect public involvement activities for the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update. Ms. Bird announced that FHWA and GDOT have reviewed the document and its forty-five day public comment period ended February 19, 2021.

Mr. John Harley made a motion to amend the Participation Plan. Mr. Bryan Wood seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Performance Measures-PM1 & TAM Plan

Ms. Jessica Bird reminded the committee that they agreed to have targets updated through an administrative modification by MPO staff. According to Ms. Bird, the 2021 targets for Highway Safety/PM1 were due on February 27, 2021. She said she updated the 2045 MTP and FY 2018-2021 TIP to reflect the new targets using the five-year rolling average for 2017-2021. According to Ms. Bird, the administrative modification is on the MPO website.

Ms. Jessica Bird said she also wanted to make the committee aware of the new Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan targets. The requirement to develop performance measures and targets includes public transportation/transit, said Ms. Bird. She explained that Peach County uses Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 rural funds to operate and they have endorsed the targets presented in GDOT's TAM Plan, which needed to be updated for FY 2021. The administrative modification showing the new targets is also on the MPO website, stated Ms. Bird.

WRATS Project Status Report

Mr. Harland Smith, GDOT District 3 Planning and Programming Coordinator, provided a project report with project manager comments to the committee members and briefly reported on some of the projects.

There being no further business, Mr. Bryan Wood made a motion to adjourn. Mr. John Harley seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.